

SILVERWINGS

"Back to the basics"

Vol. 32, Issue 49

Columbus Air Force Base, Miss.

December 12, 2008

Weather



Today

High: 53, Low: 28
Sunny



Saturday

High: 57, Low: 38
Partly Cloudy



Sunday

High: 64, Low: 46
Cloudy



Monday

High: 68, Low: 50
30% chance of rain

News Briefs

Enlisted Promotions

There will be an enlisted promotions ceremony for the month of December Dec. 18 at 3:30 p.m. at the Columbus Club. All are encouraged to attend and support our advancing Airmen.

09-CB IFF Graduation

There will be a graduation ceremony for students in the 09-CB Introduction to Fighter Fundamentals course Dec. 19 at 4:49 p.m. in the 49th Fighter Training Squadron's heritage room.

Commissary Hours

The Base Commissary will be open Monday, Dec. 22 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and will be closed early at 3 p.m. Dec. 24. It will be closed Dec. 25 and Jan. 1, 2009 in observance of the Christmas and New Year holidays.

Inside



Feature 10

SUPT class 09-03 graduates today at 10 a.m. at the Kaye Auditorium.



U.S. Air Force photo by Airman Josh Harbin

Debbie Brackett, wife of Chief Master Sgt. Richard Brackett, 14th Flying Training Wing Command Chief Master Sergeant, and Leslie Watkins, wife of Col. Roger Watkins, 14th FTW commander, discuss their goals regarding their new on-base organization, FANS, during an interview Dec. 4 at the Airman and Family Readiness Center.

Making every assignment worthwhile with FANS

2nd Lt. George Fowler

14th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs

Spouses of military members are commonly burdened with frequent moves, separation from their loved ones and a generally atypical lifestyle.

In an effort to bring the spouses of service members together within the community of Columbus AFB, a new organization, FANS, was established.

FANS was the vision of Leslie Watkins, wife of Colonel

Roger Watkins, 14th Flying Training Wing commander, and Debbie Brackett, wife of Chief Master Sgt. Rich Brackett, 14th Flying Training Wing Command Chief Master Sergeant.

The acronym FANS stands for Air Force, surrounding Area, Neighbors and Self and the goal of the club is to become familiar with these four areas of the community.

FANS takes a different approach from other military

See FANS, Page 2

COLUMBUS AFB TRAINING TIMELINE

PHASE II

Squadron	Senior Class	Squadron Overall	Track Select
37th (09-12)	9.80 day	2.70 days	Jan. 16
41st (09-11)	1.93 days	-2.85 days	Dec. 11

PHASE III

Squadron	Senior Class	Squadron Overall	Graduation
48th (09-03)	2.00 days	-0.47 days	Dec. 12
50th (09-04)	9.64 days	6.13 days	Jan. 23

IFF

Squadron	Senior Class	Squadron Overall	Graduation
49th (09-CB)	2.42 days	0.58 days	Dec. 12

WING SORTIE BOARD

Aircraft	Required	Flown	Annual
T-6	1,115	742	5,777
T-1	391	304	2,207
T-38	357	242	1,779
IFF	121	84	616



Road closure notification

The Army Corps of Engineers has initiated Phase II construction of the MSG Building. During this time, the southeast portion of 6th Street and the southwest portion of Downs Street will be closed to traffic (outlined area on the map). These street sections will be closed until the scheduled project completion in February 2010. Surrounding parking lot areas will not be affected.

Local architect takes on Washington

Senior Airman Jacob Corbin
14th Flying Training Wing
Public Affairs

A Columbus AFB architect was recently named to be architect of planning, design and construction management for the Capitol of the Architect.

Eugene Poole, formerly the SABER team director with the 14th Civil Engineer Squadron, departed Dec. 5 for his new role after serving with Columbus AFB for six years.

The Architect of the Capitol's office is responsible to the United States Congress for the maintenance, operation, development and preservation of the United States Capitol Complex, according to the AoC's website, www.aoc.gov.

"I look forward to walking in the footsteps of our forefathers," Mr. Poole said. "I can't wait to see the work done not only by the politicians, but the artisans also."

Mr. Poole said while he's excited about the prospects his new job offers, he's enjoyed his time at Columbus AFB.

"This place is a hidden jewel that you never really know about until you get here,"

he said. "This has just been an awesome experience and I thank the base for it."

While Mr. Poole was at Columbus AFB, he worked on numerous projects, from the brand-new 14th Mission Support Group building, to the renovation of the base clinic.

He said his favorite project while working with the 14th CES was the new 14th Security Forces Squadron warehouse.

"It was a very complex project, but you wouldn't know it by looking at it," he said.

Also an accomplished artist, Poole painted the four murals that hang in the lobby of Kaye Auditorium. The murals capture the 65 year history of Columbus AFB.

For a man who's wanted to be an architect since he was 12 years old, he said working in the office of the Architect of the Capitol is a dream come true. He said he can't wait to work on projects involving such landmarks as the Capitol Building, the Washington Monument and even the White House.

"I'm glad I could make a contribution that the base embraces and will stand the test of time," he said.

FANS

(Continued from Page 1)

clubs and organizations. There are many organizations for military member spouses. Spouses of Stripes is one such club for spouses of enlisted members. Officers Spouses Club is another such organization for spouses of officers. FANS is not so much a club as it is a networking tool for military spouses of all ranks to get to know each other and the surrounding area of Columbus.

"When we first came to the base this summer we were able to go on several immersion tours and experienced things most spouses never get to," said Mrs. Watkins. "We felt so fortunate and decided we wanted all military spouses to have the opportunity to experience what we did."

There have already been several successful events coordinated through FANS. The most recent event was a working dog demonstration at the 14th Security Forces Squadron which more than 30 spouses and children attended. FANS plans to put on at least one event every month. The next event is scheduled for Dec. 17 and is coordinated through Operation Home Front Mississippi and the Medical Group Spouses Group. There will be a guest speaker at Fire Department sharing her experience of living with AIDS.

"I have heard spouses saying this is a bad assignment," noted Mrs. Brackett. "The assignment is really what you make of it. The people you meet and spend time with can make any assignment great."

There are no membership fees or time requirements so why not contact FANS? Information is dispersed via e-mail on a weekly basis and to be placed on a distribution list, please contact Leslie Watkins at lesliewb3@msn.com or Debbie Brackett at dpbrackett1@hotmail.com for more information or to get involved.

14TH FLYING TRAINING WING DEPLOYED

As of press time, 26 BLAZE TEAM members are deployed worldwide. Remember to support the Airmen and their families while they are away.



SILVER WINGS

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Submission Deadline

The deadline for submitting copy for next week's SILVER WINGS is noon Monday. Articles may be dropped off at the public affairs office or e-mailed.

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Submit all advertising to the Columbus, Miss., Commercial Dispatch advertising department one week prior to desired publication date. The advertising department can be reached at (662) 328-2427.

Complete your Air Force Climate Survey

General Norton Schwartz has asked that everyone who received the Air Force Climate Survey complete the survey with candid inputs. The survey has been extended through Dec. 14 and

gives Air Force senior leaders a snapshot of the climate in our Air Force today. It only takes approximately 20 minutes to complete so please get it done in a timely manner.

CAFB welcomes General Lorenz, Chief Tappana

General Stephen Lorenz is U.S. Air Force Academy in 1973, and Commander, Air Education and Training Command, Randolph AFB, Texas. He is responsible for the recruiting, training and education of Air Force personnel. His command includes the Air Force Recruiting Service, two numbered air forces and Air University. AETC trains more than 340,000 students per year and consists of 13 bases, more than 88,000 active-duty, Reserve, Guard, civilians and contractors, and 1,485 trainer, fighter and mobility aircraft.



then attended undergraduate pilot training at Craig AFB, Ala. He has commanded at every level, including an air refueling wing that won the 1994 Riverside Trophy for Best Wing in 15th Air Force, and an air mobility wing that won the 1995 Armstrong Trophy for Best Wing in 21st Air Force. He commanded the training wing at the U.S. Air Force Academy as the Commandant of Cadets. He also served as the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Budget, Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Financial

Management and Comptroller, Headquarters U.S. Air Force, Washington, D.C.

Prior to his current assignment, the general was Commander, Air University, Maxwell AFB, Ala. He is a command pilot with 3,400 hours in ten aircraft.

Chief Master Sgt. Robert Tappana is the Command Chief Master Sergeant of AETC. Chief Tappana is the senior enlisted leader responsible to the AETC commander for the professional development, military readiness, and mission effectiveness of the command's enlisted Airmen.



Chief Tappana entered the Air Force in Traffic Management. Chief Tappana served in fighter wings, a composite wing, a missile wing, an airlift wing, and a training wing as well as special duty units within and outside his career field. He served as a command chief master sergeant for three wings, one of them in a deployed location, and a Numbered Air Force. His assignments include bases in Texas, Washington, and Mississippi. His overseas assignments include Sicily, Korea, and Alaska.

General Lorenz, Chief Tappana to visit CAFB Dec. 15

Airman Josh Harbin
14th Flying Training Wing
Public Affairs

General Stephen and Leslie Lorenz, Commander of Air Education and Training Command, and Chief Master Sgt. Robert Tappana, AETC Command Chief Master Sergeant, will visit Columbus AFB Dec. 15 and Dec. 16 during their immersion into AETC bases.

While here, General Lorenz and his command chief will visit various areas throughout the base in order to gather a deeper understanding of Columbus AFB's role in AETC.

After being introduced to senior leadership and receiving the base's mission and vision for the future briefing, General Lorenz will initiate his tour with visits to two of Columbus AFB's premier facilities. The general and the chief will start at the Fire Department and the Air Traffic Control complex.

He will also tour the Fuel Cell hangar, the 14th Operations Support Squadron, the 48th Flying Training Squadron and the Fitness Center Dec. 15.

Dec. 16, General Lorenz and Chief Tappana will begin their day with a breakfast at Montgomery Village in the enlisted dormitory complex with dormitory residents and Honor Guard members.

They will later tour the Dental Clinic and the new 14th Mission Support Group complex.

Near the end of his visit to Columbus AFB, General Lorenz will hold a commander's call at Kaye Auditorium at 10 a.m. for all base members. There will be an opportunity to ask the general questions at the end of the event.

Through this visit, General Lorenz and his team will be able to see the BLAZE team in action and see Columbus AFB's role in producing the greatest military aviators in the world.

Air Force captain finishes long road to citizenship

2nd Lt. Jeffrey Weger
14th Medical Operations
Squadron

Captain Nicholas Johnson began his Air Force career as an enlisted maintainer in July 1994.

He spent four years in various roles working with the F-117 program. In February 2004, he was selected to attend Officer Training School at Maxwell AFB, Ala., as a pilot selectee. Following undergraduate pilot training, he became a First Assignment Instructor Pilot in the T-38, serving in that capacity at Moody AFB, Ga., and here at Columbus AFB.

Despite his contributions to the defense of the United States, you would be surprised to learn that until very recently, Captain Johnson was not a citizen of the U.S.

Captain Johnson was born in Sheffield, England on Feb. 24, 1976. He entered the U.S. with his parents in September 1982 and was adopted two years later by his stepfather. While applying for a passport in 2004, Captain Johnson learned of an obscure law which grants citizenship to individuals who were adopted, but only if they were born before 1983.



Courtesy photo

Captain Nicholas Johnson, 37th Flying Training Squadron, is congratulated by Lt. Col. David Johnson, 37th Flying Training Squadron commander, shortly after Captain Johnson's citizenship ceremony at Whiffield Hall at the Mississippi University for Women Dec. 4. This culminates Captain Johnson's three year journey toward earning his U.S. citizenship.

Captain Johnson was extremely surprised to learn he was officially not a citizen.

"I was pretty shocked and I worried I would lose my commission as an officer," said Captain Johnson.

The process to get naturalized took more than three years and only recently was he informed he

would receive his citizenship. Captain Johnson was extremely relieved to know he would officially become a citizen.

When asked about the citizenship process he said, "It was a really long road and I became discouraged at times but it was really something I wanted so I pushed through it."

Columbus Christmas parade



U.S. Air Force photo by Sonic Johnson

Lieutenant Col. Beau Easterling, 14th Operations Group Chief of Standardization and Evaluation, walks with Paul Swain, 50th Flying Training Squadron Honorary Commander, and 20 members and families of the 50th FTS during the City of Columbus' Annual Christmas Parade Saturday. The 14th Flying Training Wing commander and command chief master sergeant, Columbus AFB Youth Center Torch Club Smart Girls and the CAFB Drug Education for Youth program also participated in the parade.

Thank you

Because of your generosity of time and baking skills, the 2008 Base Cookie Drive was a wonderful success.

We collected 890 dozen cookies - which is 10,680 individual cookies!

There was such a variety of cookies and it was evident people spent a lot of time baking and decorating. From our bakers to those who bagged, sealed and stapled, and those who delivered to dorms, housing and offices all over the base - this never would have happened without your help. Columbus AFB is truly special because of the wonderful people who live and work here!

Thank you and Merry Christmas!

Susan Dunn, Columbus Cookie Drive Chairman



Wing commander's holiday open house invitation

Colonel Roger and Leslie Watkins invite all members of the BLAZE family to their holiday open house Dec. 21 from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. at 7404 Jackson Circle. This is a family-friendly event and the Watkins' ask that everyone RSVP by Dec. 16 at 434-7395 or 434-7024. The attire is casual wear. To help mitigate the amount of people at the house at any given time please show up according to the following schedule if possible:

OG:	1 p.m. to 2 p.m.
WSA/MDG:	2 p.m. to 3 p.m.
DynCorp:	3 p.m. to 4 p.m.
MSG:	4 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Safety for the holidays

14th Flying Training Wing Safety Office

Are you going to the Bahamas for some fun in the sun? Are you going to Colorado for a week-long ski trip? Regardless of the travel plans you are making, one thing stands true: they don't call it a travel *plan* for nothing. *Plan* is the operative word in any travel scenario. Take a little time to make a plan and then a little more time to make a back-up plan.

You have provided your contact information on your leave form, now you need to make sure you have contact numbers for your unit. Things happen. You could be injured, become ill, or your return may be delayed due to weather or a vehicle breakdown. Ensure you have adequate rest prior to starting your trip, this applies to the return trip as well, as we are always trying to push that envelope and squeeze that last minute out of our leave!

Here are a couple of items for

those of you traveling by automobile. First of course, make sure the vehicle is ready for the road, make frequent rest stops, drive during your normal waking hours, and know the weather forecast.

Second, if you are traveling with children, don't make the big mistake of taking off your seatbelt to turn around and tend to the children in the backseat. This is not only distracting to the driver; it leaves the unbelted person completely vulnerable in the case of a mishap.

Lastly, please avoid the use of cruise control while driving during heavy rain, or snow or ice-covered streets, as this may lead to vehicle controllability problems. Just remember to be alert, prepare for the unexpected, and have a happy and safe holiday season.

**Holiday
SAFETY
TIPS
To Live By**

Happy Shop and Wrap



U.S. Air Force photo by Airman Josh Harbin

Second Lt. Michael Schwartz, 14th Operations Support Squadron, wraps gifts for children during the Happy Shop and Wrap Wednesday at the Columbus Club. More than 90 volunteers were on hand to assist in the wrapping of presents to donate to local children.

Leaders encourage Airmen to apply for Academy

U.S. AIR FORCE ACADEMY, Colo. — Young, hard-charging Airmen are sought for entry into the U.S. Air Force Academy and the Air Force Academy Preparatory School with the end goal of earning a commission, but must apply by Jan. 31, 2009.

The Academy sets aside up to 85 slots for active-duty Airmen and up to 85 more slots for Guard and Reserve members in each cadet class for young, hard-charging Airmen to join its cadet ranks.

Likewise, the Academy's Preparatory School offers 60 slots for Airmen to join the one-year prep school. Completing the prep school earns graduates entry into the Academy's next class of cadets.

"Our United States Air Force Academy and its Preparatory School offer opportunities for our best and brightest enlisted Airmen who meet the criteria to enter the commissioned ranks," said Gen. Norton Schwartz, the Air Force chief of staff.

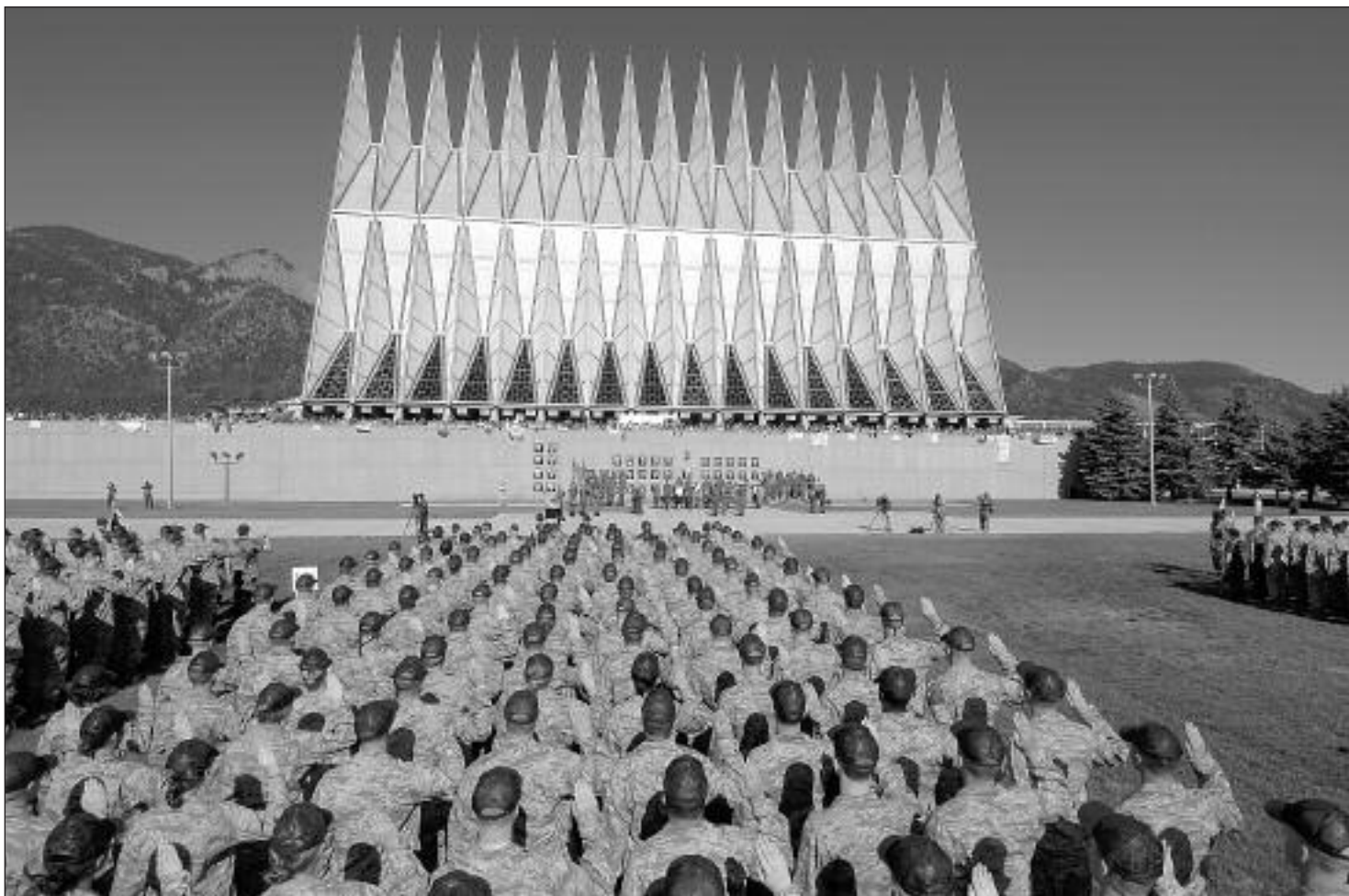
The general co-authored a letter with Chief Master Sgt of the Air Force Rodney J. McKinley, which was sent out to all bases, advising Airmen of these opportunities via the Leaders Encouraging Airmen Development program.

"As commanders and supervisors we ask for your support to encourage your sharpest Airmen to apply for the LEAD program," the general and the chief said.

These commissioning opportunities are available to Airmen with high moral character, who demonstrate leadership ability, and have competitive scholastic scores.

"If you have young, hard chargers in your command who demonstrate outstanding character and values coupled with leadership potential, please urge them to consider a commissioning path through our Academy," Chief McKinley said.

The basic application criteria for Airmen is they must be less than 23 years of age by July 1 for entry to the Academy or less than



U.S. Air Force photo/Mike Kaplan

The 1,346 basic cadet trainees of the Class of 2012 are sworn in June 27 at the U.S. Air Force Academy in Colorado. Out of the 1,300 slots in the next class of cadets, the Academy has set aside 85 slots for qualified active-duty personnel, and another 85 slots for qualified Guard and Reserve members. Deadline for application is Jan. 31, 2009 and details are available at www.academyadmissions.com or from the base education office.

22 years of age by July 1 for entry to the Preparatory School; be unmarried; be a U.S. citizen or be able to obtain citizenship prior to entry; and have no dependents.

An Airman wishing to apply for an Academy Preparatory School appointment must complete and return an Air Force Form 1786 by Jan. 31, 2009. Upon completion, the form and commander's endorsement should

be mailed to: HQ USAFA/RRS, 2304 Cadet Drive, Suite 2400, USAF Academy CO 80840.

When advising Airmen on Academy applications, commanders and supervisors should encourage all applicants to take the ACT or SAT exam as early and often as necessary to meet Academy application guidelines; take the Candidate Fitness Assessment

and Department of Defense Medical Exam as soon as possible.

For more information on the LEAD program, contact Donna Najar at DSN 333-3089 or via e-mail at donna.najar@usafa.edu. Additional information is available on the Academy Admissions Web site at www.academyadmissions.com or at each base education office.

Deterrence is not a fading concept, CSAF says

Maj. Patricia Traynor
5th Bomb Wing Public Affairs

MINOT AIR FORCE BASE, N.D. — Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Norton Schwartz reminded community members and North Dakota's senior elected representatives at a luncheon here Dec. 1 that "deterrence is not a fading concept."

As part of his visit to the base, the general discussed the concept for the new Global Strike Command. He noted that in some ways, the Air Force "is going back to the future" in joining up strategic bombers and missiles into a single command with associated ways to sustain them.

But the new command will not, he said, be a reincarnation of the old Strategic Air Command. It will focus on

"compliance, perfection as a standard, and on how we support the entire enterprise in a way our country has every right to expect."

Rather than distributing strategic tasks around with many people responsible, all with overlapping responsibilities, General Schwartz said this new command will "clarify and crystallize duties, make lines of supervision very clear, and identify the accountable parties."

The new "home" for the new Global Strike Command is still being evaluated, but the general expects the decision to be announced in the spring.

What had been decided was the selection of Minot AFB as the preferred location to receive a second B-52 squadron. Pending the outcome of an environmental impact analysis, the additional squadron would stand up at

Minot AFB by late 2009 or early 2010. The B-52 will remain "the most visible and certainly the most plentiful nuclear-capable bomber we have," General Schwartz said.

On the horizon for the Air Force is the next-generation bomber, which could be part of the inventory as early as 2018, though likely later, he said.

"Whether it will be manned or not is still an open question," General Schwartz said.

The next bomber, he said, must be able to "penetrate denied airspace, deliver weapons and stay there for a long time, with sensors that allow it to operate in lethal environments."

"Clearly there's a need for us to ensure other adversaries are not emboldened," he said. "We need to be a full-spectrum force."

Virtual training for real-world missions

Tech. Sgt. Don Nelson
115 Fighter Wing Public Affairs

VOLK FIELD, Wis. — A \$1.5 million virtual training environment housed in a hangar at the Volk Field Combat Readiness Training Center here offers security forces personnel and other Airmen realistic fire team convoy training.

Much like an IMAX, a 280-degree screen brings to life real-world scenarios designed to put a four-person fire team made up of a driver, gunner, rifleman and troop commander, through the paces of an actual convoy mission.

Trainees are put through scenarios designed by 115th Security Forces Squadron members who have real-world experience.

With the virtual training, four Airmen strap in to a well-equipped Humvee as it rumbles along a road in some remote area of Iraq and are required to identify and neutralize hostile forces while escorting a convoy.

Tech Sgt. Jody Sammons, fire team leader with the 115th SFS, is one of three unit members who received the Combat Action Medal for missions they participated in while deployed to Iraq. Along with Tech. Sgt. Fred Ciebell, a SFS member, Sergeant Sammons develops real-world inspired scenarios using a modified Humvee, airpowered weapons and a computer-generated environment complete with hostile forces and various hazards.

"The basics that we want the trainees to learn include

identification of hostile forces, basic use of the weapon, which builds up muscle memory," Sergeant Sammons said. "One of the most important elements of the training is getting the Airmen to learn their gear and feel comfortable using it."

Even though the scenario plays out on a huge screen, an integral part of the training is the modified Humvee that is designed to be driven similar to one Airmen might use in an actual convoy mission. The vehicle is also set up to respond to changes in the terrain that the driver's sees on the screen.

Familiarization with the vehicle, compass and Global Positioning System, while learning to take a breath and relax are the skills Sergeant Sammons said he hopes his students take away from this training.

Learning to work as a team is also reinforced by the trainers. The Airmen who participate not only get valuable training time doing the scenarios, but also they get first-hand knowledge from those who have been on convoy missions in Iraq.

"This training is good because in the scenarios, you actually have people shooting back at you and you can see if they go down or if you need to keep shooting," said Senior Airman Kim Shortner, a fire team member with the 115th SFS. "It is more real life like than just shooting at a target."

While the mix of computer-generated scenarios and the use of life-like equipment gives the training almost super video game like experience, Sergeant Sammons said he hopes that even though some trainees use their gaming



U.S. Air Force photo/Master Sgt. Dan Richardson

A 280-degree screen brings to life real-world scenarios designed to put a four-person fire team made up of a driver, gunner, rifleman and troop commander through the paces of an actual convoy mission in October at Volk Field, Wis.

skills, that they treat it like a real-world experience.

"Anytime we can have this real-world, low cost type of training is outstanding," said Lt. Col. Brian Buhler, the 115th SFS commander. "Having this training opportunity so close to the unit allows us to maximize our training resources, allowing more people to get this valuable training experience."

PACAF officials look to blogging to tell Air Force story

HICKAM AIR FORCE BASE, Hawaii — Pacific Air Command officials here created a blog called PACAF Pixels in September to allow Airmen across the command to share, in a personal and authentic way, their service experiences.

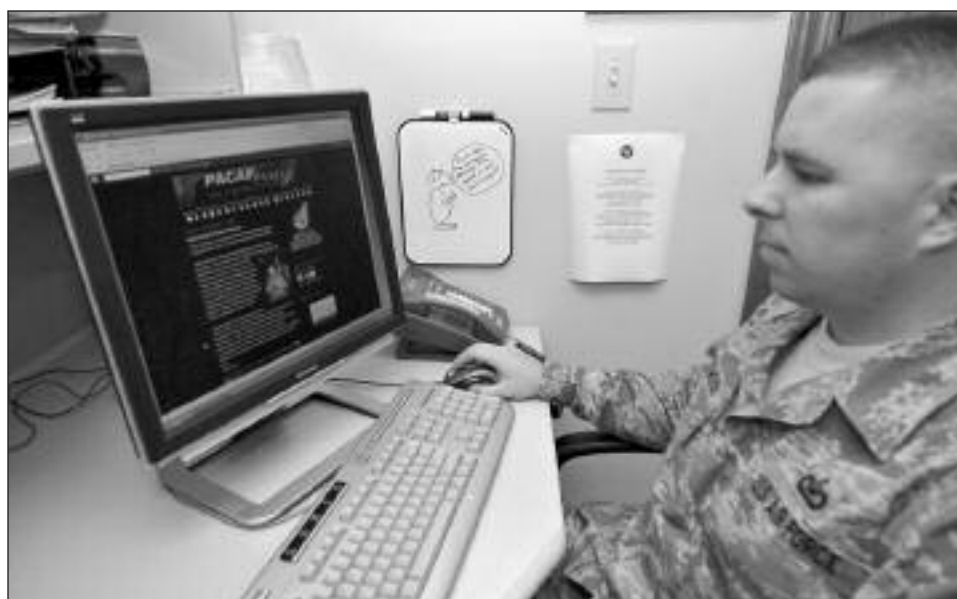
PACAF officials said this is a significant departure from traditional communication in the command, citing the rise of Internet social networking that has turned news consumers into active participants in a vast and growing conversation.

The blog is a first step to joining with others online who have an interest in Air Force issues in the Pacific.

"Many of the people we're trying to reach no longer read the New York Times or watch 'Meet the Press' on Sunday morning," said Col. Ed Thomas, the PACAF Public Affairs director. "Younger generations, both in and out of uniform, are far more likely to be texting, chatting, blogging or Twittering."

Each of the stories on the blog forms a part, or pixel, of the larger picture of PACAF's impact on security and stability in the region.

"Social networking is a two-way conversation, not a monologue," Colonel Thomas said. "Comments on the Pixels blog won't always be from our fans. We have to accept and respond to criticism as openly as we do to praise. This informal give and take is very different to the way the military usually communicates. But it will allow us to reach large audiences who



U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. Tom Czerwinski

Tech. Sgt. Bryan Gatewood checks on comments posted on the PACAF Pixels site Dec. 9 at Hickam Air Force Base, Hawaii. Pacific Air Forces officials are now looking to blogging and social networking as means of reaching audiences and telling the Air Force story in the Pacific. Sergeant Gatewood is assigned to PACAF Public Affairs and is the co-developer of PACAF Pixels.

otherwise would never hear our story."

And even more to the point, he said, is communicating in way the blog reaches Airmen and others who want to know about the Air Force.

"I can't remember not having the Internet," said Capt. Erika Yepsen, an officer assigned to PACAF. "I've always had a computer. If my generation needs some-

thing, that's where we turn, whether it's to find a place to eat or to catch up with a friend from high school."

Political candidates and even some traditional media outlets have already tapped into this powerful online dialogue. CNN partnered with YouTube to set the agenda for some of this year's presidential debates. Campaign fundraising online reached

record levels as candidates harnessed enthusiasm through virtual communities built around blogs or networking sites like Facebook or MySpace.

Like any form of communication, blogs and social networks are not without risks. The immediacy and audience reach that make it a powerful communication tool cause concern within the military.

"Managing risk is nothing new and blogs are just another way to communicate," said Lt. Col. Don Langley, the PACAF deputy director of public affairs. "The same rules apply whether you're talking on the phone or texting. Security begins at the source. We trust our Airmen with high-tech weapons and high-value equipment. Ours is also a culture that trusts our Airmen to communicate responsibly about the Air Force anytime, anyplace."

Creating that culture is exactly what PACAF officials are doing. The command directed all public affairs offices to obtain commercial Internet access via machines not connected to the Defense Department network. This allows engagement on social media sites often blocked by government servers to prevent the spread of computer viruses. Armed with this new access, the public affairs teams have been uploading videos to the Air Force YouTube channel, seeking Airmen to contribute content to the Pixels blog, and reaching out to civilian bloggers who share interests in national security or the Asia-Pacific region.

Make the mission count

Maj. Mike Maksimowicz
14th Flying Training Wing
Commander's Action Group

Another Thanksgiving complete and the holidays are fast approaching. Where does the time go? As another year winds down, what better time to reflect on the past year and prepare for the next? The new year brings with it a fresh start. It brings an excellent opportunity to refocus and commit to getting back to the basics. Whether you are a maintainer, caregiver, supporter, an operator, civilian or contractor, now is the time to re-evaluate our fundamental duties.

Most at Columbus AFB understand our primary mission is to produce pilots. But the mission of Columbus AFB is to develop the world's best warriors, leaders and professional military pilots.

Here at Columbus we often focus on the pilot aspect, but the other two components are as important if not more important. When I put on my uniform I am an officer first. When I began to think more about that, I thought back to the day I was commissioned. I glanced at my bookshelf and saw a gift from my commissioning officer. I opened it and re-read the note he had written on the inside, "Today you are swearing

to defend it- never forget its roots and its deepest meaning."

Now more than ever these words ring true.

The Air Force is a service of warriors. As I write this, we have 34,000 Airmen deployed to countries all around the world, some from Columbus AFB. They are standing watch 24/7 to make sure this country continues to enjoy the freedoms our forefathers fought so hard to establish. We are also a service of leaders. Each and every Airman is a leader.

The Chief of Staff of the Air Force, General Norton Swartz has continually restated this. Everyone is responsible

and accountable for their individual performance and the performance of their team. The reality is that everyone contributes, that no one has greater value to our collective mission than another.

So yes, while we are in the business of producing pilots, there are also other pieces to that mission. What we continue to do makes Columbus AFB the premier base in Air Education and Training Command and in turn ensures the continued excellence of our great Air Force. Take time to enjoy the holiday season, but also take time to reflect and commit to your role in our great service and to our great nation.



The Airman's Creed

I am an American Airman.

I am a warrior.

I have answered my nation's call.

I am an American Airman.

My mission is to fly, fight, and win.

I am faithful to a proud heritage.

A tradition of honor,

And a legacy of valor.

I am an American Airman

Guardian of freedom and justice,

My nation's sword and shield,

Its sentry and avenger.

I defend my country with my life.

I am an American Airman.

Wingman, leader, warrior.

I will never leave an Airman behind.

I will never falter,

And I will not fail.

What is your personal mission statement?

Tech. Sgt. Ernest Owens
354th Fighter Wing
command post

EIELSON AIR FORCE BASE, Alaska — Have you ever tried traveling across the country without a road map? If not, then why travel into the future without a map? Recently during one of my business classes I came upon an interesting tool to use in life.

Our assignment was to come up with a personal mission statement and then a one-year and a 10-year plan for our lives. The professor expressed his desire that we take this to heart and not just as another assignment to get through. I took his advice and approached the assignment in such a manner. What follows is what I came up with and my thought process.

I know the Air Force mission statement: "The mission of the United States Air Force is to fly, fight, and win ... in air, space, and cyberspace" and our 354th Fighter Wing mission statement: "Prepare U.S. and allied aviation forces for combat, to deploy Airmen in support of global operations, and to enable the staging of forces to promote U.S. interests in the Asia-Pacific region."

But what could be my personal life mission statement? Here is what I came up with: "I will place family first, above all else. I will give 110 percent effort at work at all times and do what needs to be done to move up in rank and improve my work area. I will live as healthily as I can by staying active, at the same time keeping my family healthy by keeping them active as well. I will ensure to enjoy life!"

Now that I put my purpose in life into a mission statement I had to plan where I wanted to go in life.

This part of the assignment the professor stated always would be changing. As time goes by your desires in life change or you accomplish the plan you had and move on to another one. This was fun for me, I realized that I would someday retire from the Air Force and would need a plan as well for that day when it comes.

Here is what I came up with for my one-year and 10-year plans:

Short term (present to one year)

- Complete fall semester
- Study for and make master sergeant
- Increase my leadership skills at work
- Prepare my family for PCSs

Long term (one to 10 years)

- Complete Bachelor's degree
- Make Senior Master Sergeant
- Help children succeed in school
- Retire from the Air Force
- Start my own business after retirement

This is an easy and quick process that can help you. Don't end up somewhere in life and ask yourself, "How did I get here?" Take the initiative and a little time to plan for your future. You will find writing these items down and reviewing them occasionally can help you stay focused and on track. Remember, whenever you do something to improve yourself, you are also improving the Air Force. Improve yourself and get where you want to be while leaving the Air Force a better place at the same time.

We are all recruiters

Each Air Force member is an "ambassador in blue."

Each person can make a difference in someone else's decision to join the Air Force.



Get involved in youth programs, whether in high schools or through church and community organizations. Be a role model in your community.

Take advantage of the Recruiter Assistance Program. Each member of the Air Force is authorized a permissive TDY home for up to 12 days to perform recruiting duties with the local recruiter.

Talk with others about what the Air Force has done for you and the successes you've had because you joined.

Air Force core values: Airmen must live them

Commentary by Jennifer Thibault
Air Force Space Command
Public Affairs

PETERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Colo. — Before going to any theme park or water ride extravaganza one usually checks to see how much it costs to get in. How many Airmen checked to see how much it cost to join the Air Force?

Sure most checked to see what the salary would be, maybe even what kind of education and health benefits are provided, but how many checked to see the price of one ticket to ride this adventure called the Air Force?

Upon entering the Air Force, Airmen are taught right from the start the entry fee. The core values — integrity first, service before self and excellence in all we do — tell us the price of admission in to the Air Force, according to Air Force Core Values, Jan. 1, 1997, also called The Little Blue Book.

These three concepts are the price Airmen must be willing to pay upon taking the oath of enlistment or the oath of office. These values spell out exactly what is expected of Airmen every day they serve. They are no short order; in fact they can be quite difficult to pay at times.

These three concepts were not established just to challenge Airmen. They were established to unite all members of the Air Force family to a common theme, according to The Little Blue Book.

These values are more than expectations or a cause to rally behind. They are foundational tools provided to guide Airmen through everyday situations, decisions and challenges. They enable leaders to make the right choice at the right time for the right reasons.

Because these values start from on high, many may think they are only applicable to big-picture decisions. They may not think the core values have any bearing on day-to-day work in the “real” Air Force.

Air Force Space Command's senior enlisted leader would say otherwise.

“The core values cut across all dimensions of everything we do, whether it's strategic application of airpower, operational prosecution of the battlefield or tactical execution of an individual mission set,” said Chief Master Sgt. Todd Small, the AFSPC command chief.

A recent example of strategic application of the core values has occurred at the highest levels of the Air Force. Two of the most senior Air Force leaders resigned after a couple of serious mistakes involving nuclear weapons sounded an alarm that

warned of a breakdown of the Air Force's ability to appropriately manage and operate the nation's strategic deterrence.

Fortunately, the Air Force has a means to get back on course — the core values. According to The Little Blue Book, the core values “serve as beacons vectoring us back to the path of professional conduct; the core values allow us to transform a climate of corrosion into a climate of ethical commitment.” To repair the damage done and return the faith the nation has in the Air Force's ability to operate and maintain the nuclear enterprise, senior leaders are refocusing the force with their core-values lens.

First they are

apply-

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excellence

in all we

do, and

then

some, by

enforcing

perfection

as the stan-

dard for

nuclear

operations.

Some may

say that

is out of

reach, but

discussions

with AFSPC

senior leaders

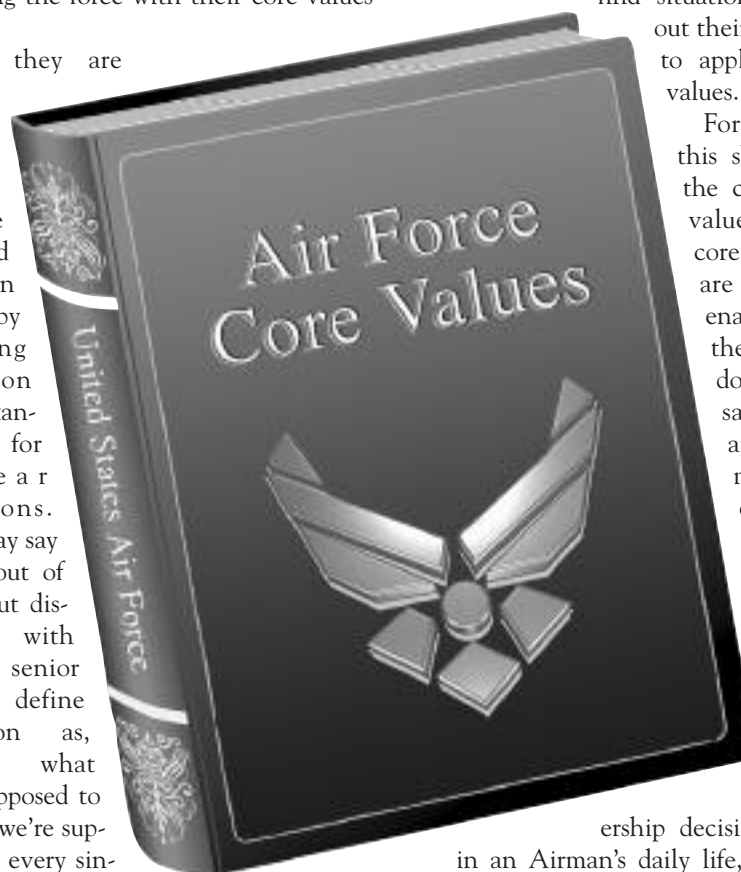
define

perfection

as, “doing

what we're

supposed to



operationalizing the concept of excel-

lence,” the chief said.

They also made some hard decisions with service before self in mind. Some very senior Air Force leaders were held accountable for actions of those under their leadership. Other Air Force servicemembers were given administrative actions. Although these people individually had good performance records; they did play a role in the errors. In those roles, they failed to keep the force on track, and so, for the good of the service as a whole, they were held accountable.

“Done right, it's hard,” Chief Small said. “The service takes precedence. It's not easy; it's difficult.”

Airmen face difficult decisions that enable the use of the core values on a more tactical level. An Airman puts the service

first when accepting an assignment or temporary duty that takes him or her away from family. Airmen exercise excellence when they continue to improve their physical fitness and readiness. Integrity keeps certifiers from just signing a subordinate's training record without actually verifying the training. These everyday exercises provide Airmen the opportunity to warm up their application of the core values for later use in more strategic-level arenas.

It may still be hard for some to see the core values as anything more than lofty ideals. It may be even harder for some to find situations throughout their typical day to apply the core values.

For Airmen, this shouldn't be the case. “(Core values) are the core to who we are and they enable us to do the things we do,” the chief said. “They are center mass on everything we do.”

The core values provide the basis upon which

every lead-

ership decision is made in an Airman's daily life, even if he doesn't notice it. Not only are Airmen applying the core values in many of their daily decisions, their decisions typically call upon more than one core value for making the most appropriate decision.

For example, when an Airman chooses to exercise checklist discipline after a supervisor has left the room, he is demonstrating at least two of the core values. Integrity First, “is the willingness to do what is right even when no one is looking,” as stated in The Little Blue Book. He is also exemplifying service before self by following the governing guidance set forth by the Air Force and other Department of Defense agencies regardless of what his personal preference may be.

The examples of this are also found off base, as the core values are boundless and timeless, they are not restricted to any one location or scenario, Chief Small said.

Integrity first is played out regularly in homes across the nation as Airmen teach their children to do the right thing even when mom and dad are not watching. Parents also reiterate excellence in all we do when encouraging children to do their very best in school, to put forth their best effort every day and on every assignment.

Incorporating the core values into one's home life will personalize the core values. It will make the application of the core values second nature and therefore more readily called upon in even more situations.

Even if one can understand the application of the core values some may not notice the back up the core values can provide. They may not be able to see the piece of mind the core values can generate.

Leaders are responsible for developing an atmosphere that “inspires trust, teamwork, quality and pride,” according to Air Force Pamphlet 36-2241, Promotion Fitness Examination Study Guide. Leaders must take risks according to the guide, but these risks may be less scary if one relies on the core values.

“The core values are our aim points and our guide posts along the way to make sure we're doing the right thing for the right reasons,” the chief said.

If an Airman is applying the core values to his decision making, he will be able to demonstrate the propriety of each decision with the back up of the core values. In the previous example of the nuclear enterprise decisions, knowing that these hard decisions were based on service before self puts it into perspective that Airmen more readily accept.

The same holds true for the Airman going on temporary duty although he will miss his family. His family, who also accept and understand the Air Force core values, know that the service has to come before the family and they too are more able to deal with the decision.

As with life in general, the Air Force is constantly changing and evolving. With each new day, Airmen face new situations, new issues and challenges. Airmen operate in different locations, different units and different environments. The Air Force's core values provide stability. “They point to what is universal and unchanging in the profession of arms,” according to The Little Blue Book.

All Airmen, all leaders need to take a new look at the core values. Discover new ways to apply them in both professional and personal arenas. Airmen must make the core values personal; Airmen must live them.



T-1A Jayhawk



T-38C Talon

SUPT Class 09-03 earns silver wings

Twelve officers have prevailed during a year of training, earning the right to be an Air Force pilot.

Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 09-03 graduates at 10 a.m. today during a ceremony at the Kaye Auditorium.

The graduation speaker is Col. Roger Watkins, Commander of the 14th Flying Training Wing, Columbus AFB, Miss. The 14th FTW conducts Specialized Undergraduate Pilot training for U.S. Air Force and allied officers. The wing possesses 209 aircraft and flies 60,000 sorties and 85,000 hours to train over 400 new pilots annually. He is also responsible for base support and medical care for the wing's 3,100 people, an operations and maintenance budget of \$160 million and capital assets exceeding \$790 million.

Students receive their silver pilot's wings at the ceremony, and students who excelled in their respective training tracks are recognized.

Second Lt. John McDaniel, T-1, received the Air Education and Training Command Commander's Trophy for being the most outstanding students overall in their classes.

The Air Force Association Award was presented to Capt. David Gebbie, T-1. The award is presented to a graduate in each flight who excelled in training and typified the tenets of the association — promoting aerospace power and a strong national defense.

Second Lt. John McDaniel was named distinguished graduate.

The 52-week pilot training program begins with a six-week preflight phase of academics and physiological training to prepare students for flight.

Students learn aircraft flight characteristics, emergency procedures, takeoff and landing procedures, aerobatics and formation flying. Students also practice night, instrument and cross country navigation flying.

Primary training takes about 23 weeks and includes 254.4 hours of ground training, 27.3 hours in the flight simulator and 89 flying hours.

After primary training, students select, by order of merit, advanced training in the fighter-bomber or airlift-tanker track.

Both tracks are designed to best train pilots for successful transition to their follow-on aircraft and mission.

Advanced training for the fighter track is done in the T-38 Talon, a tandem-seat, twin-engine supersonic jet. T-38 training emphasizes formation, advanced aerobatics and navigation. Training takes about 26 weeks and includes 381 hours of ground events, 31.6 hours in the flight simulator and 118.7 flying hours.

The airlift-tanker track uses the T-1A Jayhawk, the military version of a multi-place business jet.

Instruction centers on crew coordination and management, instrument training, cross-country flying and simulated refueling and airdrop missions. Training takes about 26 weeks and includes 185 hours of ground training, 43 hours in the flight simulator and 104 flying hours.

The class reunites on graduation day, when students receive the aeronautical rating of pilot and begin their careers as U.S. Air Force pilots. *(Editor's note: The class's pilot partners are Howard and JoAnn Ferguson, GNC, Leigh Mall, and Dr. Cooper Callaway, Callaway Orthodontics.)*



Capt. David Gebbie
Nashport, Ohio
C-17, McChord AFB, Wash.



2nd Lt. Craig Dearden
Salt Lake City, Utah
MQ-1, Creech AFB, Nev.



2nd Lt. Justin Epperson
Philadelphia, Pa. (ANG)
KC-135, McGuire AFB, N.J.



2nd Lt. Paul Lentz
New Orleans, La.
C-21, Scott AFB, Mo.



2nd Lt. Julia Love
Columbus, Ohio
KC-10, McGuire AFB, N.J.



2nd Lt. John McDaniel
Dayton, Ohio
C-17, Charleston AFB, S.C.



2nd Lt. Jeffrey Moon
Colorado Springs, Colo.
KC-135, McConnell AFB, Kan.



2nd Lt. Robert Mullinax
Bedford, Ind.
E-3, Tinker AFB, Okla.



2nd Lt. Samuel Reed
Mobile, Ala.
MQ-1, Cannon AFB, N.M.



2nd Lt. Corey Stunson
Pittsburgh, Pa. (ANG)
KC-135, Pittsburgh IAP, Pa.



2nd Lt. Justin Van Patten
Corvallis, Ore.
KC-10, Travis AFB, Calif.



2nd Lt. Patrick Weekly
Shawnee, Kan.
T-1, Columbus AFB, Miss.

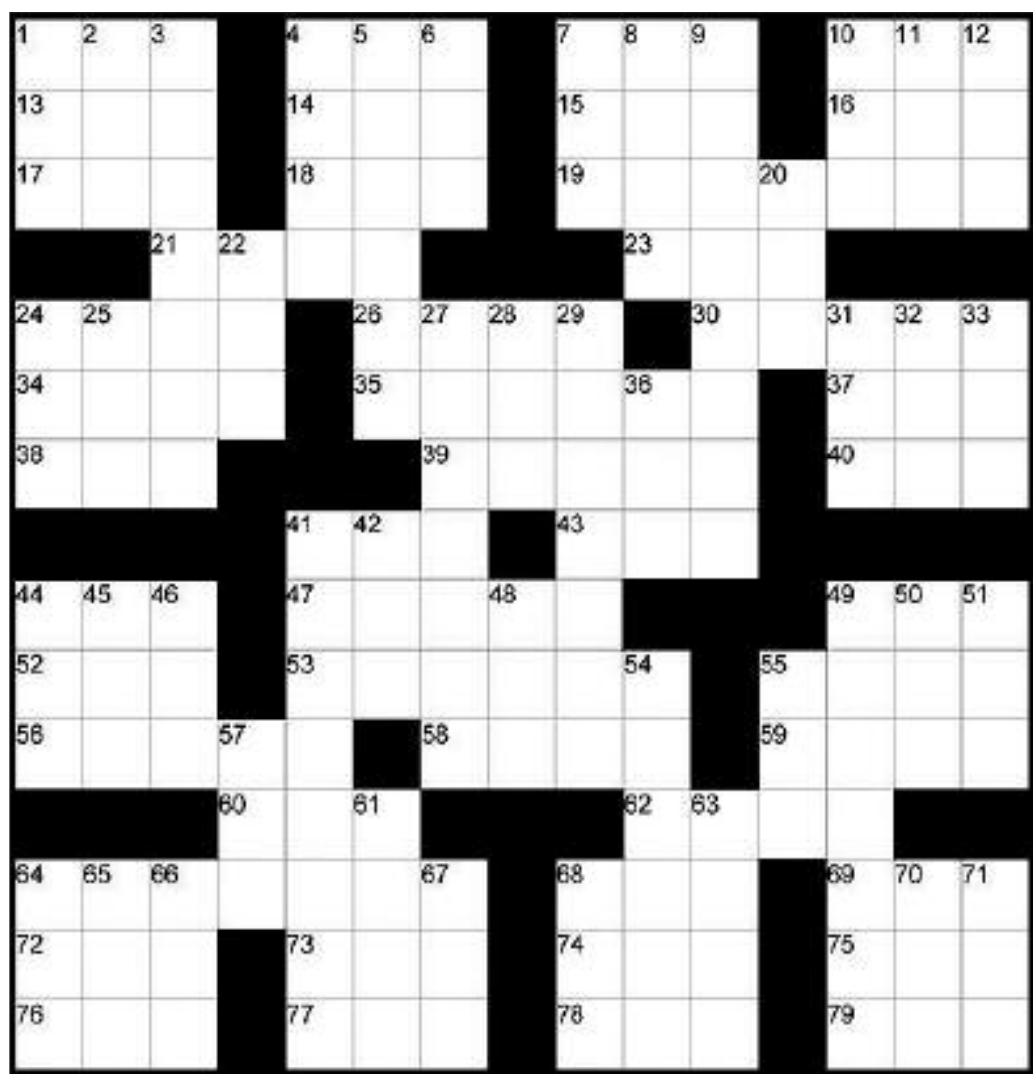











??? ??
Capt. Tony Wickman
USAFE Public Affairs

ACROSS
1. Golfer Ernie
4. Vanilla ____; Cruise movie
7. Internet tool for sharing info between computers over a network
10. Droop
13. Type of bread
14. Color
15. Engine need
16. Mining lode
17. Gun the motor
18. Actress ____-Margaret
19. Current 8 FW commander
21. Terminates
23. ____-fi; movie genre
24. Authors
26. Continent Korea is on
30. Bloating
34. Greek letter
35. Current 51st FW commander
37. ____ Alley; infamous hot spot during Korean War
38. Burn residue
39. Respond to a stimulus in a particular manner
40. SW American Indian
41. Airport abbrev.
43. Yellow ____; body of water surrounding Korean peninsula
44. Prone
47. Things
49. Accountant ID

52. Hawaiian gift
53. General assistance
55. Current Korean-based NAF commander
56. MAJCOM Korea bases are assigned
58. Cola
59. In debt
60. Foot part
62. Single
64. Canadian province
68. USA commissioning source
69. Decay
72. V is for Vendetta actor
73. Feline
74. Constrictor
75. Tokyo formerly
76. Automobile
77. Shade tree
78. Hostel
79. Morning moisture

12. USAF O-10
20. Clear, disencumber, or free of something objectionable
22. US cryptologic org.
24. Actress Zadora
25. Greek goddess of the dawn
27. Brownish orange to light brown colored horses
28. Fury
29. Hoarded
31. Flightless bird
32. High-tech school in NE
33. Iron or Bronze
36. Pilot with 5+ aerial victories
41. Part of the DoD
42. Path on a map, in brief
44. European mount
45. Pod vegetable
46. ____-tac-toe
48. O Sole ____; classic Neapolitan song
49. Huddled
50. The Raven writer Edgar Allan
51. Commercials
54. F-16 plane; assigned to 5 DOWN and 63 DOWN
55. Korean currency
57. Dined
61. Among others, in brief
63. Korea base; home to 51st FW
64. Circle part
65. Open meadow
66. Prohibit
67. Cash machine
68. Japanese sash
70. Lyrical poem
71. Drag



	F-22							
			F-15			B-2		F-22
A-10			F-22	F-16				F-35
	F-35		AC-130	B-52				F-15
	A-10	AC-130				F-35		
					F-22		AC-130	
F-15				F-22	B-52			F-16
		F-22						
	B-2				F-15	F-22		

COMBAT AIRCRAFT

To solve, place a combat aircraft into each box so that each row across, each column down, and each small 9-box square within the larger diagram will contain each of the following combat aircraft: B-1, B-2, A-10, F-15, F-16, F-22, F-35, B-52 and AC-130. In other words, no plane may appear more than once in any row, column, or smaller 9-box square. Working with the planes already given as a guide, complete each diagram with the missing ranks that will lead to the correct solution.

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat/Sun
15 AETC/CC Base Visit	16 AETC/CC Base Visit AETC Commanders Call 10 a.m.@ Kaye Auditorium	17 BLAZE Lunch Bunch 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. @ Club	18 CONS-CPTS (P) Change of Command 10 a.m. @ Club Enlisted promotions 3:30 p.m. @ Club	19 Wingman Day Civilian Call 9 a.m. @ Kaye Auditorium	20/21 21st - WG/CC Holiday Open House 1-5 p.m.
22	23 Last Day of Flying	24	25	26 AETC Family Day; CAFB Closed	27/28

Long Term Events	Jan. 9 - 09-04 Assignment Night
Jan. 2 - AETC Family Day, CAFB Closed	Jan. 15 - Dorm Dinner
Jan. 5 - Flying Resumes (1/2 Day)	Jan. 16 - AETC AF Ball

Customer Feedback Survey helps drive programs

Jana Hall

14th Force Support Squadron

Every year, Headquarters Air Force Services conducts a Customer Feedback Survey to assess customer satisfaction with base level Services programs. This year there is an exciting change. The Air Force has merged Mission Support and Services to create new synergies and improve customer service. The Air Force Customer Feedback survey will now include A1 functions. Customers will be able to answer the survey online or complete the paper survey on the spot while they are visiting an activity.

The online survey was a great success last year and we are anticipating even more surveys will be completed online this year. The online survey allows you to respond quickly either at the activity or from the comfort of your own home. To save time, the online version is designed to only present questions about activities you and your family participate in. This reduces the time it takes to complete the survey. The survey



U.S. Air Force photo by Pam Wickham

Leslie Watkins, wife of Col. Roger Watkins, 14th Flying Training Wing commander, takes a few moments to complete this year's customer feedback survey.

is asking actual customers who have patronized facilities and activities to complete the survey and measures whether activities are meeting the needs of our cus-

tomers. The data is aggregated and used at the base, MAJCOM and Air Force levels.

"We want you to let your opinions be known," said Lt. Col. Jose Aleman, 14th Force Support Squadron commander.

According to Aleman, "Your responses will help make a difference in the programs offered to you, your family and the entire Columbus AFB community. The 14th Force Support Squadron is committed to offering a variety of programs to improve the quality of life for Air Force families. These surveys help us understand what we are doing right and where we can improve."

If you have any questions, please contact your Services Marketing representative, Pam Wickham, at 434-2337. This survey has been reviewed and approved for distribution by the Air Force Personnel Survey Branch at the Air Force Personnel Center. The survey control number is USAF SCN 07-073 and the survey dates are from Dec. 1 through Jan. 15, 2009.

Base families afforded many recreational opportunities

Gatlinburg Ski Trip

The Information, Tickets and Travel office offers this trip Jan. 17 to Jan. 19 but reservations must be made by Dec. 17. Cost is \$235 per person and includes transportation, two meals, chalet lodging for two nights, lift tickets and rentals or \$195 per person without rentals or \$150 per person for non-skiers. Skiing is the Jan. 17 from 3 p.m. to 10 p.m. and the Jan. 18 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. A \$50 non-refundable deposit is required when registering. Full payment is required no later than Jan. 10. The maximum number of people for this trip is 14 people. For more information, call 434-7861.

Breakfast with Santa

The Youth Center and Child Development Center will offer this program from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m. Dec. 13 at the Youth Center. Register by Dec. 8. Cost is \$3 per person and includes breakfast, children's pictures with Santa, games, prizes and more fun. In addition, parents may fill out a clothing request form for free children's clothing while supplies last. Sizes available are from infant to size 14. Pick up a clothing request form from the Youth Center or Child Development Center and turn in by Dec. 8 at the activities. For more information, call 434-2504 or 434-2479.

Annual Holiday Cooking Baking Contest

The library hosts this annual event with judging at 2 p.m. Dec. 16 at the library. Register anytime until Dec. 12 at the Library. Entries are due by 1:30 p.m. Dec. 16. At least six cookies are required per entry with no more than two entries per person. No tarts or candy may be entered, just cookies. The winner will receive the newest Southern Living Cookbook. For more information, call 434-2934.

New Orleans Saints Tickets

The Information, Ticket and Travel office has a limited number of tickets to the New Orleans home game against Carolina Dec. 28. Tickets are \$45 each and are sold on a first come, first served basis. An overnight

trip for the Dec. 7 game against Atlanta includes transportation, lodging and ticket to the game for \$165 per person. For more information, call 434-7861.

Mardi Gras Trip

Check with the Information, Ticket and Travel office for booking your reservation for this trip scheduled for Feb. 13 to Feb. 15. Cost is \$175 per person, double occupancy, \$140 per person with three in a room or \$120 per person for four in a room. Cost includes transportation, two nights' lodging, and a light breakfast. Must have 20 registered by Jan. 15 to offer. For more information, call 434-7861.

Holiday Carnival, Family Bingo

The Youth Center offers this program from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Dec. 19 at the Youth Center. Win prizes at the carnival and family bingo games. Register by Dec. 16 at the Youth Center. For more information, call 434-2504.

Drawing for LCD Television

The Columbus Club will draw for the LCD television Dec. 17 following the lunch bunch service. Club members may register to win the television by placing their receipt with their name and phone number on the back of the receipt. For more information, call 434-2490.

Have a Bowling Birthday Party

The Bowling Center offers the best birthday party packages around. The "good" package includes two hours of bowling, free shoe rental, "bowling" place settings, balloons and a souvenir bowling pin for the guest of honor for just \$7.50 per person. The "Best" package includes everything in the "Good" package plus choice of hot dog, grilled cheese sandwich or chicken strips with fries and soft drink for \$10 per person. A \$25 non-refundable deposit is required for all parties. No outside food or beverages allowed, except for birthday cakes. For more information, call 434-3426.

Blaze Lunch Bunch at the Columbus Club

Every Wednesday During Lunch

All plates come with one meat, two sides, roll or corn-bread, tea or water
\$6.25 for club members
\$7.25 for nonmembers

This week's menu: **Meat choices:**

Fried Chicken, Herb Roasted Pork Loin & Baked Spaghetti

Sides:

Macaroni & Cheese, Garlic Mashed Potatoes, Turnip Greens, Corn on the Cob & Side Salad with Ranch Dressing

Lunch Bunch Special - **\$6.95**

Tender grilled chicken breast on a bun topped with lettuce, tomato, & onion served with a side of French fries

Desserts:

\$2.95 each

Apple Pie Ala Mode
Tiramisu Cake
Jumbo Peanut Butter Cookies

Base News

New vMPF Capability

In mid-December, another military personnel capability will be available in the virtual Military Personnel Flight, which can be accessed from the Air Force Portal or from the "Secure Apps" tab on the AFPC website. Members may log in and withdraw a pending voluntary assignment application or request cancellation of an approved voluntary assignment. Colonel and colonel-selects may only withdraw and/or request cancellation of a Humanitarian or Exceptional Family Member program application and/or assignment.

Saint Leo University

Registration for the 2009 Spring term starts Dec. 15. Submit your application during November and have the \$35 application fee waived. Saint Leo is offering 10 on-ground classes in the Education Center, 207 Distance Learning classes and 30+ CD-ROM classes. For more information, call 434-8844 or go to www.saintleo.edu.

Testing Center Closure

The Education Services Testing Center will be closed starting Dec. 22 and will reopen on Jan. 5, 2009. Additionally, the Testing Center will be closed Jan. 6. Please plan accordingly. Normal testing hours are on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 8 a.m. and 1 p.m. Call 434-2562 to schedule.

Education Counseling Hours

Education counseling (CCAF, Bachelor's/Master's programs, Tuition Assistance, etc.) is now available Mondays and Wednesdays from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. by appointment only. Please contact Edward Hodge at 434-2562 to schedule.

DRMO

Authorized personnel may retrieve property that is marked for DRMO Facilities only if they are still physically located in Base Supply. For more information, call 434-7233 to review the property or call Stock Control Section at 434-7179 or 434-7198. To check for authorization and Demand Processing Section, call 434-7178 to order the property. All other DRMO processing is done via the Web at www.drms.dla.mil.

Zero Overpricing Program-Incentive Awards

Overpricing is an issue everyone should be working. All personnel are encouraged to participate, and will be rewarded for any tangible savings resulting from their price challenge. Monetary awards will be given in accordance with AFI 38-401, The Air Force Innovative Development Employee Awareness Program. Advice and guidance

are available by calling the Customer Service element of Base Supply, located in Building 158, at 434-7178.

Supply Customer

If you are looking for that special piece of equipment or furniture for your office, your point of contact is the Inspection Section of Base Supply. Inspection maintains the Last Look Area, which has used equipment and furniture turned in from other organizations that no longer have a need for the items. All items in the Last Look Area are available without charge to your organization. For more information, you can contact the Inspection Section at 434-7233 or 434-7234.

Attention All Deployers

The 14th Communications Squadron has a new system which allows you to place "free" telephone calls back home from your deployed location via DSN. You can call every day or once a week; whichever you prefer (allotted time is 3.5 hours a week). Pin numbers are required and can be picked up along with instructions from the Telephone Systems office located in Building 900, Room 9. Please call 434-2020 for additional information.

Gas Mask Fit Test

Gas Mask Fit Testing will now be by appointment only. Appointments will be taken Wednesdays and Fridays from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Exceptions to appointment times will be made for deployers only. For more information, call Bioenvironmental Engineering at 434-2286 or 434-2226.

Thrift Shop

The Thrift Shop is open for consignments of household goods, appliances that are in good working order, furniture and electronics. Please, no computer equipment. Clothing is accepted as donation items only.

The Thrift Shop is open Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Consignments are taken up until noon.

School Liaison Officer

The Columbus Air Force Base School Liaison Officer works with local school districts, schools, parents and students on issues related to elementary and secondary education for the children of ALL personnel (civilian, military and contractor) assigned to the installation. As parents of school age children are aware, there are many unique issues our children face as they transition to new schools. The role of the School Liaison Officer is to assist families ensure their children receive the best possible education regardless of where they attend school. For assistance, please contact the School Liaison Officer at 434-2792 or via email at slo@columbus.af.mil.

Airman and Family Readiness Center

(Editor's note: All activities are offered at the Airman & Family Readiness Center unless otherwise specified. For more information about any of the activities listed, call 434-2790 or email afrc@columbus.af.mil.)

Pre-Deployment Brief

There is a mandatory briefing for active duty personnel who are deploying or going on a remote tour. The brief is held every work day at 9:30 a.m. Spouses are welcome to attend.

Post-Deployment Brief

This mandatory briefing is for active duty personnel who are returning from deployment or a remote tour are held daily at 1:30 p.m. at the A&FRC. For more information, call 434-2790.

Preseparation Counseling

This mandatory briefing for personnel separating or retiring to be completed at least 90 days prior to separation is held daily at 8:30 a.m. May complete up to 12 months prior to separation or retirement. This briefing takes approximately 30 minutes. For more information, call 434-2839 or 434-2790.

Sponsorship Training







This training for Unit Intro Monitors and Sponsors will be held Dec. 16 at 9 a.m. at the Airman and Family Readiness Center. Web-based training is also offered through Air Force Portal under Columbus AFB and through the Public Folder. For more information, call 434-2839 or 434-2790.

Hearts Apart Social Gathering

This event will be held Dec. 16 from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. This social gathering is for families of deployed (over 30 days)

SOLUTION FOR LAST WEEK

(Current weeks puzzle on page 12)

Majr	SSgt	AFC	SRSGt	SrA	AD	Amm		TSGt
TSGt	Amm	SrA	AFC	CMSGt		SSgt	SRSGt	AB
CMSGt		AB	SSgt	Amm	TSGt	SrA	AFC	SSgt
AB	CMSGt	Majr	SrA	TSGt	Amm	SMJgt	SSgt	AFC
SRSGt	SrA	Amm	AB	SSgt		TSGt	Majr	CMSGt
	AFC	TSGt	Majr	SMJgt	CMSGt	AB	Amm	SrA
Amm	SRSGt	CMSGt	TSGt	AB	SRSGt	AFC	SrA	SSgt
SrA	AB	SMJgt	CMSGt	AFC	SSgt	Majr	TSGt	
AFC		SSgt	Amm	SRSGt		CMSGt	AD	SMJgt

or remote personnel. Information and refreshments will be offered. Advance registration is required. For more information, call 434-2839 or 434-2790.

Communications, Assertiveness Workshop

This workshop will be held Dec. 19 from 11 a.m. to noon. For more information, call 434-2839 or 434-2790.

Telephone Directories

Local AT&T "The Real Yellow Pages"® are available at the Airman and Family Readiness Center. Stop by and pick up your free copy.

Chapel Schedule

Protestant

Sunday:

9 a.m. — Adult Sunday School

10:45 a.m. — Traditional Worship

Service (Children's Church)

All are invited to a fellowship luncheon following the 10:45 a.m. service the fourth Sunday of each month.

Holiday schedule:

Dec. 17: 6 p.m.: Children's Christmas play. If you would like to join us for dinner before caroling or the play, a potluck dinner will be served at 5 p.m.

Dec. 24: 3 p.m. to 5 p.m.: Come and Go Communion. If you are unable to join us for the candlelight service but would like to partake of communion and prayer, please come to the Chapel for its Come and Go Communion.

Dec. 24: 5 p.m.: Candlelight Service

Catholic

Thursday:

5 p.m. — Choir Practice

Sunday:

3:45 p.m. — Choir Practice

4:30 p.m. — Confession

5:00 p.m. — Mass

OLD	ACT	APE	APO
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	HARE	EOS	
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TINA		EYE	EAR
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	GLOBEMASTER		
APR	CONAN	CANDO	
MIA	ANN	REAR	
CAMP		EXTENDER	
	ION	ERNE	
TRENTON		BANDANA	
HEF	TOE	EMU	DIX
EAT	ONT	CSI	ALE



SEASON'S GREETINGS

Blood Drive: Eye Laser and Surgery Center will be hosting a blood drive Dec. 15 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. All donors will be entered into the contest to win a new Toyota Corolla. The United Blood Services RV will be out front at 634 Leigh Drive behind the hospital toward Bluecutt Drive. For more information call 327-3773.

William Grant Still Exhibit: The Columbus-Lowndes Public Library is hosting a traveling exhibit on African American composer William Grant Still through Dec. 18. William Grant Still was an African-American classical composer who wrote more than 150 compositions. He was born in Woodville, Miss. He was the first African-American to conduct a major American symphony orchestra, the first to have a symphony of his own (his first symphony) per-

formed by a leading orchestra, the first to have an opera performed by a major opera company, and the first to have an opera performed on national television. He is often referred to as "the dean" of African-American composers. It is free and open to the public. For more information, please call 329-5304.

New Year's Eve Block Party: Stark Aerospace, Main Street Columbus and WCBI-TV presents the first New Year's Block Party taking place in downtown Columbus Dec. 31 beginning at 8:30 p.m. and ending at 12:30 a.m. More details will be provided as they become available.

For more information about local area events, e-mail AFRC@columbus.af.mil or call the Airman and Family Readiness Center at 434-2790.

Sports Shorts

Fitness Classes: The Fitness Center offers fitness classes. Spin classes are Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays beginning at 7 a.m. Cardio kick boxing classes are Mondays and Wednesdays at 5 p.m. and aerobics is offered Saturdays at 9 a.m. For more information, call the Fitness Center at 434-2772.

Summer Lunch, Bowl Special: Receive two free games of bowling from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. with the purchase of a combo meal during lunch.

Cosmic Bowling: Cosmic bowling is every Friday and Saturday from 7 p.m. to 11 p.m. Cost is \$2 per game. The night is complete with black lights, loud music, strobe lights and bowling!

14th CES defeats RAPCON



U.S. Air Force Photo

The Championship Flag Football game was held Dec. 4 at 6 p.m. The 14th Civil Engineer Squadron took the championship from the 14th Operational Support Squadron's RAPCON with a score of 25-0.

CONTROL YOURSELF



Play it smart.
Know your skill level
and ride within it.



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Tuesday Night Mixed



U.S. Air Force photo by 2nd Lt. George Fowler

Team Fountain of Youth poses for a photo at the Tuesday Night Mixed league Tuesday at the Columbus AFB bowling alley. Paul "SOMF" Fowler, Mark "Cuba" Govea, Andrew "Squirrel" Walter and Andy "Cholo" Johnson are all members of the 14th Operations Support Squadron and make up team Fountain of Youth. The league consist of 10 teams and runs for 30 weeks.